

Bramhope & Carlton Parish Council

Policy and comments on applications for work on trees in the Bramhope Conservation Area and/or trees with a Tree Preservation Order.

This policy was adopted on 24th March 2021 by Full Council

Date of review – March 2027

Introduction

Bramhope and Carlton Parish Council (PC) are given the opportunity to comment on any applications to Leeds City Council (LCC) for work to trees with the Bramhope Conservation Area and those with a Tree Preservation Order (TPO). It has become apparent over time that a substantial number of tree applications are received every year, which has resulted in a significant workload for the PC in dealing with these applications. In the planning context the PC are able to comment but LCC are the final arbiter, and as such employ specialists in arboriculture to ensure that sound decisions are made. The PC does not have the resources or expertise but wish to retain an interest in what is happening to trees within the Conservation Area of with a TPO. This policy seeks to simplify the process.

Context

The PC is strongly opposed to the removal of trees under normal circumstances and would prefer that they are properly and regularly maintained to keep them manageable, healthy and prevent them becoming dangerous either to people or property.

The PC also recognise that for various reasons trees have not been maintained and have become dangerous and may need to be felled as a last resort. The PC also recognises that trees also become diseased and may need to be felled as they may spread the disease to other trees in the locality (Ash Dieback and Chestnut canker being common ones) or indeed, become dangerous.

The PC also recognise the importance of trees in the slowing the breakdown of the ozone layer and the impact has on climate change. With this in mind the PC feels that where trees have to be removed, they should be replaced wherever feasible.

Response policy

With the context in mind the PC will respond as follows:

- Maintenance of trees

Under normal circumstances the PC will not comment on applications for maintenance of trees.

- Removal of trees

The PC will object to the removal of any tree unless it is dangerous or diseased.

If a tree is said to be diseased or dangerous, we will not object and will word our response to the effect that "The PC does not object as long as LCC believe the tree is diseased/dangerous".

Where trees are to be removed within the Conservation Area the PC will request that:

A replacement tree should be planted of a size and species appropriate to the setting which will preserve and enhance the character of the Conservation Area.

Where a tree or trees are to be removed with a TPO the PC will request that:
A replacement tree should be planted of a size and species appropriate to the setting.

The setting being the garden, or woodland, or area, where the felling is proposed.